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THE CRITIC.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TO-NIGHT'S AMUSEMENTS.

ALHAMBRA OPERA HOUSE—Charles Wren.

NATIONAL THEATRE—A Royal Past.

HAROLD HILL—Professor Carpenter's Mes-

MORRIS.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 5, 1890.

THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF IS A REPUB-

LICAN TRICK.

NEW YORK may probably get the

best money's fair, but it will never get

into this.

MR. LEONARD BACON inquires: "Which

is the party of moral ideas?"

Ours.

POLITICS CUTS no figure at all in the

effort of Chicago to secure the World's

Fair. By this it is inferred that the en-

deavor of New York is purely patriotic.

FOR NEARLY a month past," says a

Wild West man, "the Union Pacific has

been expending \$5,000 per day shoveling

snow." What sort of climate can a

road expect under the administration

of Charles Francis Adams?

CHARLES EMORY SMITH, editor of the

Philadelphia Press, is said to have

a pretty sure thing on the Russian

mission. Smith will be a good name to

touch Russia. It will give the

Tschernikoffs and Kaffertzeckoffs an

object lesson in democratic simplicity.

IT IS PREPOSTEROUS to suppose that

such a man as Mr. Parnell would really

desert his mother. There is undoubtedly

something in this family affair

which the reporters cannot get at. It

is pretty safe for reporters to keep out

of family affairs, anyway, so long as

family affairs keep out of the courts.

IT WOULD BE in bad taste to intimate

that anything like a Presidential boom

could be connected with so dignified an

affair as the centennial celebration of

the birth of the Supreme Court of the

United States; but it may at least be

dignifiedly hinted that the oration of Gro-

ver Cleveland yesterday was no feather

in the cap of Governor Hill.

IT IS AGREEABLE to reflect that,

while Mr. Platt is alarmed lest the lo-

cation of the World's Fair in New

York give Tammany a great advantage

in the approaching campaign, the

County Democracy of Chicago are not

the least exercised over the political

distributions that would follow Mr.

Davis' success as the Congressional

Napoleon of the situation.

THERE IS AN awful ponderosity in the

style of Grover Cleveland, but some-

times it is effective. This sentence

from his New York oration of yester-

day is almost Gladiolusian:

Though bitter experience had taught

them that the instrumentalities of govern-

ment might trespass upon freedom, and

though they had learned in a hard school

the cost of the struggle to keep liberty

from the grasp of power, they refused, in

the solemn work they had in hand, to take

counsel of undue fear or distracting per-

turbation; and they calmly and deliberately

established as a function of their govern-

ment a check upon unauthorized freedom

and a restraint upon dangerous liberty.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION of the

formation of the United States Su-

preme Court, which occurred yesterday

in New York, seems to have been an

imposing and adequate affair. The

Supreme Court of the United States is

the unique element of our anatomy

—the element which the students of

government in every civilized country

have watched with especial interest.

This court has endured for one hun-

dred years, and has been at once the

most powerful and the most conserva-

tive factor of the success of the repub-

lic. Its characteristics have been

purity, intellectual ability and patriot-

ism.

MR. HAWLEY MUST have been in a pe-

culiar mental condition in the Senate

yesterday, when he introduced a resolu-

tion requesting the District of Colum-

board. The Board is the District Gov-

ernment, or, more accurately, the ex-

ecutive branch of the said Government.

Yet in all the important matters touch-

ing the engineering affairs of the Dis-

trict, the Board is destitute of any real

authority. It cannot call upon any

of the Engineer Commissioners' assis-

tants for reports relating to their duties

or their work, except through the cour-

tesy of the Engineer Commissioner him-

self.

The danger point is just here. The

place where money defaults or savings

can occur is in the Engineering Depart-

ment. The District learned that during

Major Ludlow's unfortunate tenure.

The situation is awkward, to

say the least, and may prove—indeed,

has once already proven—to be dan-

gerous. It is a good time to move for a

better state of affairs. Major Raymond

who was an eminently satisfactory Com-

missioner, has been relieved—he ceased

to act last Monday—and his successor,

Colonel Robert, has not yet arrived to

assume his new duties. To agitate the

matter now can in no way reflect upon

the outgoing or the incoming Engineer

Commissioner.

MR. PARNELL'S VICTORY.

The ticket of political purity the

Tory Times has been at last compelled

to give Mr. Parnell, will doubtless prove

the victorious banner of the radicals.

Happily, the Times, in trying to put the

Irish party in a well-defined rebellious

attitude toward the English as a people

and the throne as an institution of gov-

ernment, fell into excesses common to

prosecuting attorneys who seek popular

reputation rather than the earnest sat-

isfaction of justice.

How much the deep seated race

prejudice of Mr. McDonald, the lately

departed editor, had to do with the

errors of judgment made by the govern-

ment organ, everyone familiar with the

policy of the paper knows. Mr. McDon-

ald was, behind his greatness as a jour-

nalist, a Scotchman, and he disliked the

Irish and their leaders with all the

intensity of his intense Scotch-Cath-

olic nature. To him there was nothing

less about the Home Rulers, save their

wickedness. He believed devoutly in

the confession of Piggott. He exposed

entire faith in the story of the perjurer.

The sagacity, knowledge of men and

penetration for which he was profes-

sionally renowned, failed him utterly

in dealing with this moon faced

imposter. When Piggott fled, and then

mercifully ended his own miserable ex-

istence, McDonald lost the grasp which

had made him great. His employees,

loyal to their old servant to the last

chance of redemption, sustained him in

the guerrilla fight, which followed, but

history will tell that he sought the obli-

tion in the cup his lieutenant had chal-

lenged with the pistol, and finally

passed away with a great burden of re-

gret and disappointment on his soul.

The compromise now made with Mr.

Parnell is a confirmation of the errors

and injustice of which McDonald him-

self became the victim. It should be

said of him that he was not wholly im-

maculate. He was a conservative, up-

right, fearless man and an ideal editor.

His subordinates, the finest corps of

journalists in the world, all loved him.

Such was the exclusiveness of the

Times' following, and so much did that

following partake of its editor's prej-

udice, that Mr. Parnell's triumph can

scarcely injure its business prosperity.

The mass of English people, who swing

so cautiously between the radical theo-

ries and conservative promises, how-

ever, will be very likely to grow warm

toward Gladstone and Parnell. Every-

thing in the nature of flying staves in-

dicate a not far distant solution of the

Irish problem, after that amiable fas-

tion in which Great Britain is wont to

legally enact the inevitable.

AN EXAMPLE OF REFORM.

The changes wrought in a hundred

years are nowhere better seen than in a

comparison of Washington County, Pa.,

to-day with the same county during the

last decade of the last century. Then

the entire population depended upon

the manufacture of spirits from grain

for a livelihood, and that region was

the seat of a widespread revolt

against the Federal Government, which

is known in history as the insurrection,

to suppress which President Washing-

ton called out 15,000 militia. The re-

bellion was put down with the shed-

ding of nothing more dangerous than

the fiery fluid which caused it. In

fact, not only was the insurrection

put down, but the whisky as well. The

Democratic party came to life in this

time and place.

Just now Washington, Pa., is in a

tumult because an Episcopal minis-

ter, in a recent sermon declared that

the moderate use of wine was not sinful.

From whisky distillers the Pennsylv-

ania Washingtonians have become the

most rabid of prohibitionists, and not

only have the distilleries disappeared,

but not a saloon is licensed anywhere

in the county.

WATCH THE TREASURY.

There is a great deal of serious bus-

iness to come before Congress, as soon

as the decks are cleared of the pirates,

and the most serious parts of it may be

grouped under the head of "subsidies."

Neither the people nor their representa-

tives should suffer themselves to be de-

ceived by the conspirators. An evil is

not to be remedied by the application

of a greater evil. It cannot benefit the

people to devote the hundreds of mil-

lions extorted from them, to erecting

and maintaining schemes in whose ul-

timate control they are to hold no ma-

terial interest. The ocean can subsidy

device, is, of all the projects springing

from the Republican party, the most self-

ish, the most pernicious, the most in-

tolerable. The worthy gentlemen who

are at the bottom of it should keep in

hiding.

THE CRITIC IS ADVISED THAT THE LEGIS-

lation so magnificently introduced by

Senator Frye, is inspired by private de-

sires, and that the prospects of it devel-

oping a new prosperity, as the advocates

of the measure pretend, are more soap

bubbles. No country whose tariffs are

so high as to place its industrial market

beyond the competitions of universal

trade can hope to establish anything

save an ornamental commerce on the

seas. This latter is just what the sub-

sidy plan is designed to do. It is to feed

the insatiable greed of corporations and

railroad kings, that they may in time

SOCIETY.

grow bigger than people and govern-

ment. It is significant that, with the sweep-

ing success of the protection party in the

recent campaign, the Vanderbilt

conceived the project of crossing to

England with fast passenger and ex-

press ships, and such powers as Mr.

Huntington became suddenly concerned

in shedding upon the Dark Continent

the beneficence of the locomotive head-

light.

The truth of the whole matter is that

the ocean mail subsidy scheme is a very

plausible confidence game, which an ex-

cessively plausible lot of politicians

expect to play upon the people. If the

people feel like giving any more

subsidies they should vote themselves

the recipients, and public welfare the

purpose of the legislation. It is time

for the Government to cease fostering

private enterprises with gratuities

gained by iniquitous taxation. The

money barons need no charity from a

nation many times robbed by them al-

ready.

A LOVER'S MISTAKE.

Mr. Charles Bosky of Washington

committed suicide on Monday night

last, and left addressed to his landlord

a note, in which he said: "I feel sorry

to give you any trouble, but things don't

always go as we expect." He also left

a note addressed to a young lady of this

city, and among his papers was found a

letter from the same person, in which

she said that she cared nothing for him,

and wished that he would cease his at-

tentions to her. Mr. Bosky obeyed the

request speedily and with an infinite

emphasis.

A great many suicides are committed

every year for love by people who do

not understand the passion, and the

chief reason why they do not under-

stand it is that it is seldom treated

rationality in literature. There are two

things in true love—first, that it is a

deffiance, and secondly, that it is true-

ly the love of the loved one, and not

the love of the self, which is not defor-

mity, but that is quite a different affair

from the romantic passion.

If Mr. Bosky had understood him-

self and the emotion with which he

was suffering he would have summoned

resolution to his aid and waited with

all confidence for the changes of time

to cure him. That would have been

brave and sensible. Anybody who is

tempted to commit suicide for love

ought to put it off six months, and in

the meantime avoid the object of his

affections in every possible way. Ten

chances to one, when the period is

past, he will be in a condition to

smile at his folly, and to go on living

like other common-sense human beings.

MR. MELVILLE E. STONE returns to

Europe next week to join his family at

Geneva. Until Saturday he will remain in

Washington visiting friends. Though

he is extremely shy about indulging

in even so much as an intima-

cation of his plans, it is safe to say

that he will come back in the fall to

make another newspaper. Notwith-

standing the sacrifices of health the Chicago

Daily News demanded of him, he is neither

discouraged nor permanently hurt. In

fact, he is more vigorous than he has

been for years. Whether he decides to

re-enter journalism at New York

or Boston or Philadelphia, it matters not,

the city he adopts for his venture will

be fortunate, for Mr. Stone is one of the

very few journalists in the United States

big enough to stand above parties and

strong enough to prefer right to riches.

He is at once a journalist in enterprise

and a child in cleanliness of purpose. The

paper Mr. Stone built is a monument to

the honest principles and independence

of journalism, for no one else ever stood

so firmly for both against poverty, hardship

and temptation.

IT IS STATED THAT Miss Margaret Mather

has purchased the American Rights to "Joan

of Arc" for the new play in which Mrs. Bar-

hardt has just appeared in Paris. Prob-

ably the author would have some difficulty

in recognizing his chief character in the

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THE QUIET TRAIN DISPATCHER.

On the Accuracy of His Work Depend

The Lives of Travelers.

(Denton Herald.)

Sixty miles an hour! A mile a

minute! These are expressions that

suggest to everybody a sudden roar of

an iron monster, a wild shriek of a

piercing whistle, the dazzling flash of

the engine's headlight, the hot rush of

air, and the slowly ceasing thunder of

vibrating rails. What else does it sug-

gest? To the unreasoning timid it

brings visions of the horrible crash and

shock of colliding trains, the deafening

reverberation of the last mad wild

echoes that hover above the wreck